



Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, and Principals

FROM: Schauna Findlay, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction

DATE: November 24, 2010

SUBJECT: Common Core State Standards Presentation and Learning Connection Community

The Common Core State Standards were finalized by the Chief Council of State School Officers (CCSSO) and National Governor's Association (NGA) development and validation committees on June 2, 2010, for English Language Arts and Literacy for Social Studies/History, Science, and Technical Subjects and Mathematics were finalized by the Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and National Governor's Association (NGA) development and validation committees on June 2, 2010. During the Fall of 2009 and Spring of 2010, educators and stakeholders from across the state of Indiana were provided with opportunities for input and to weigh-in on the draft standards documents throughout the development process.

Indiana Adoption

In August 2010, the Indiana State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards as Indiana's standards. Prior to adoption, IDOE conducted an alignment analysis project using the Achieve Standards Matching Tool, and performed a second analysis using the Surveys of Enacted Curriculum. As a result of this analysis work, two reports are currently being produced.

- The first report is a detailed crosswalk that identifies which standards match between the two sets and indicates the degree to which Indiana's current standards are found within the new Common Core State Standards.
- The second report is a grade-by-grade list that delineates which Indiana Academic Standards and Common Core State Standards should be taught together as we transition to the Common Core State Standards. *Teaching the standards presented in this forthcoming document will ensure that instruction continues to tightly align with ISTEP+ and the ECAs while developing the foundation for future learning and assessment of the Common Core State Standards.*

Indiana Implementation

In 2011-12, kindergarten teachers will teach *only* the Common Core State Standards. Curriculum maps are currently being developed for kindergarten teachers and will be made available this spring. Next year's kindergarten students will be the first class of 3rd graders to participate in the new Common Core assessments during the 2014-15 school year. As next year's kindergarteners progress through the grade levels, they will be taught *only* Common Core State Standards.

Students in grades 1-12 will receive some type of introduction to the Common Core, along with the Indiana standards for the 2011-12 school year. Beginning in 2014-15, all students in grades 3-11 will be assessed on

the Common Core State Standards *only* in English/Language Arts and mathematics. The Common Core assessment includes a summative test, which will be administered online beginning with the 2014-15 school year. The assessment also includes “through-course assessments” that take place over the course of the year, allowing teachers to adjust their instruction based on students’ results.

Indiana Department of Education staff members are working both externally, with other states, and internally, across the IDOE, to create a common scope and sequence for the Common Core State Standards, ensuring the alignment of curriculum and assessment as we move forward. Once the common scope and sequence work is completed, work on curriculum maps for grade levels beyond kindergarten will begin. Updated curriculum maps will be provided this spring, which will allow schools time to align the resources and assessments within their own curriculum documents.

Local Implementation

Today you will find the Common Core State Standards Print Library documents on the Indiana Department of Education website at <http://dc.doe.in.gov/Standards/AcademicStandards/PrintLibrary/index.shtml>

You will also find a brief video describing the Standards documents and the tools that are being developed to support the transition. The video is available on our website at www.doe.in.gov/opd/welcome.html

We encourage you to share the contents of this Memo with your teachers and begin to have conversations in an effort to orient your school staffs to this information. The following questions can be used to guide your conversations until the reports referenced above are completed and you can begin the next steps in this transition.

Guiding Questions for Understanding the Common Core State Standards:

1. What are we currently doing that is in line with the content of these standards? What is different between these standards and what we are currently teaching?
2. What changes in practice will these standards necessitate? How will we go about making these changes? What support will we need?
3. How can math teachers begin integrating the Mathematical Practices into their instruction?
4. How can social studies, science, and technical subject areas begin to use the literacy standards in their content areas? What support will they need?
5. What will we need to do with the tools/resources that will be coming from IDOE this spring and over the summer to be ready to start the 2011-12 school year?

Your suggestions for additional tools/resources to support the transition are welcome. Please send your ideas to: standards_support@doe.in.gov . Thank you.